

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

Volunteer Newsletter • May 2012

What's new?

Spring is definitely here with warm temperatures and heavy rainstorms, everything is starting to green up fast! Now that the lake is open to access we are seeing a lot of visitors. On April 15th there was a bass tournament with the winner with 5 fish at about 15 pounds. In wildlife news, we believe that both nesting eagles have hatchlings. And the osprey should have eggs. Come check it out!



Cheers!

A big thank you goes to about 75 volunteers who helped with Earth Day Work Day on Saturday, April 21! Also a thank you to our volunteer leaders for the day: Kris Horton, Steve Kehoe, Don Dunn, and Frank Strehle, our new RV Volunteer. Excellent job everyone!

Around the water cooler...

Addison Mohler did his first grebe survey of the season and counted just about 350 grebes! The CCP draft is finally coming together and should be headed off to print soon. The draft should hit the streets in mid-June. Let us know if you are not on the CCP mailing list but would like to be added so you will receive information about the draft and how to get involved.

Upcoming Events:

Wild About Life Lecture Series: Tuesday, May 8th, 7 PM

Prepare for the Upcoming Eclipse. Amy Truska, director of the Whittenberger Planetarium at the College of Idaho, will speak about the mechanics of a solar eclipse as well as how to safely enjoy a solar eclipse. Don't miss it so you can be prepared for the annular solar eclipse on May 20th!

BioBlitz and Kids' Fishing Day: Saturday, June 9th, 10 AM-3 PM

Celebrate biodiversity and practice your fishing skills at these two events. Great family activities, including live fish, birds, reptiles, and insects! Come join in the fun.

Biodiversity Basics Day Camp and Desert Detectives Day Camps, June 18-22 & July 9-13; 9-12:30

Sign up your kids for one of these week-long, hands-on, interactive day camps at the Refuge. Biodiversity Basics is for kids entering 4th and 5th grades in the fall, and Desert Detectives is for those entering 2nd and 3rd grades. To register, contact Kyle at 467-9278 or deerflat@fws.gov.



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

Comprehensive Conservation Plan Update Labeling and Postage Helpers (2-3 volunteers)

Dates and Times: Monday, June 18th or morning of Tuesday, June 19th

Things are moving along with the CCP, and we are preparing to update people on what's going on! We need some help labeling and applying postage on postcards and Planning Updates so they can be mailed quickly to folks on June 19th.

Deadline to register: June 11th

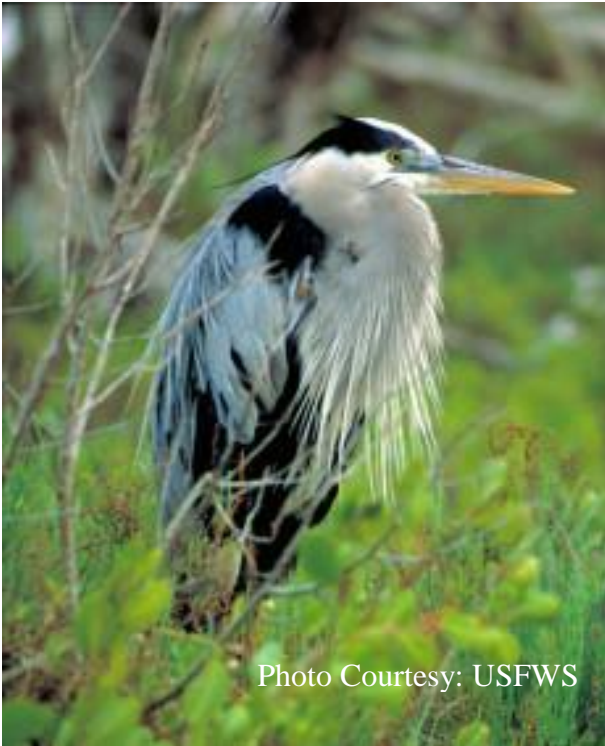


Photo Courtesy: USFWS

BioBlitz and Kids' Fishing Day Volunteers (12-15 volunteers)

Dates and Time: June 8-9, 8am-4pm

Our annual BioBlitz and Kids' Fishing Day events are just around the corner, and we need your help! Volunteers are needed to help set up tables and crafts, staff various craft and activity tables, shuttle visitors, help youngsters with fishing, wear the Blue Goose costume, and clean up the event as well. This is a great opportunity to show how special Deer Flat is to families and friends, and is quite a fun event as well! **Deadline to Register:** May 31

Goose Nest Survey (6 volunteers a day)

Dates and Times May 14th 15th 16th, 7:30 am to 4pm

We will be going out on the Snake River unit to do our second survey of the goose nests so we have an idea of the hatching success rate. We will be meeting at the shop on Iowa at 7 am and will be back to the shop around 4 in the afternoon. We would like to have the same volunteers that went the first survey but we will accept new volunteers. If you have any further question contact Kash Anderson at the Visitor Center **Deadline to register:** May 11th

Weed Warrior Volunteers (3-4 volunteers)

Dates and Time: Wednesdays

If you have an open Wednesday and are itching to get outside, join a weed warrior crew that will be manually removing and spraying some noxious weed hotspots around the Refuge before summertime hits. **Deadline to Register:** Ongoing

Day Camp Helpers (2-3 volunteers)

Dates: Desert Detectives Day Camp July 9-13

Help assist Kyle in running one of our summer day camps for kids! Volunteers are needed to help lead environmental educational activities and chaperone students throughout the day. **Deadline to register:** June 15th

To find out more about or sign up for any of these volunteer opportunities, contact Kash_anderson@fws.gov or (208)-467-9278.

Thank you, and see you at the Refuge!

Kash Anderson, *Volunteer Coordinator*